

CIGARETTE PAPERS
By JOSEPH HATTON.

Soldiers of the Future.

One day last week, passing along Newgate-st., I was attracted by a crowd evidently listening to a military band at the Blue Coat, otherwise Christ's Hospital, School. Two people have only to stop and look at something to eventually attract a multitude of sightseers. I paused among the rest, and edging my way to the railing that shuts in the famous Tudor buildings from the street traffic, I was rewarded by a stirring scene. The Blue Coat boys were marching in companies to the strain of their own band, each company carrying its tiny banner. Their yellow stockings and flowing blue coats gave the boys as a body a singularly picturesque appearance. Some of these lads will be our soldiers of the future, and one is glad to know that all over the country the young idea is being taught to shoot as well as to march and perform military evolutions.

"Mistery Repeats Itself."

"Peace at any price" people lament that the military spirit of the nation is encouraged by "paeons and masters" throughout the land. But surely this is better than conscription, which we must come to unless with the freedom of the subject we accustom the youth and manhood of our people to such exercises as shall enable them to successfully meet their enemy in the gate. Courage is innate in the British youth; but, as in a common fight, it is deplorable to know how to use your fist, in war is of the first importance not only to know how to handle a rifle, but to be an expert with it. When the English bowmen were the deadliest foes of the French, every English village had its butts, while to-day at least every big town has its rifle range. And we can never be too grateful for the grand defensive moat that Nature has given us in the inviolable sea."

Something Like a Ghostly Impression.

Charles Lamb, Leigh Hunt, and Coleridge, as you know were Blue Coat boys, and their reminiscences are full of delightful stories of Christ's Hospital. Leigh Hunt relates how in the cloisters were buried a number of persons, besides the officers. Among them is Isabella, wife of Edward II. "The she wolf of France." He was not aware of the circumstance then, but many a time with the recollection of some lines in Blair's "Grave" upon him, has run as hard as he could at night time from his ward to another in order to borrow the next volume of some ghostly romance.

Things of Beauty.

It is true that the most repulsive of the religious pictures were stepping stones to a higher order of work; it is true that in later days, not omitting our own time, the beauty of the sacred story found noble treatment in works that remain a joy for ever. But that no reason why the others should be paraded to make the ordinary man and woman and their children miserable, not for the moment merely, but in their dreams and in their memories. Life is not always so joyous that we need stock the fancy and the memory with invented horrors. The ideal should be the foremost thing that Art presents to us, not simply the actual. It is not the mission of the painter or the poet to depict ugliness, physical or moral. Let them both, however, if they will show us deformity, paint it merely by way of contrast to beauty, and the moral should be that to attain the ideal in love and friendship, patriotism must be the impulse of every man and woman. And the playwrights, why in heaven's name should they always be telling the story of lust and infidelity? There may be great lessons for us in having the misery of adultery and bigamy and falsehood and treachery placed before us; but let us have a little of the sunshine of the other side, the reward of an honest love, and a beautiful if not perfect life. Even the gloomy skies of London have their hours of brightness, and in the days of our youth the world is often hot with sunshine.

The Agony of Fear.

Few of us that have not seen ghosts. The mind's eye has a long and mysterious sight. Love and fear, solicitude for the absent dear one in danger of battle, or laid low by illness, can suggest every kind of possibility to the mind's eye; and literature, poetry, novels, plays, have from time immemorial been enriched with invented or imagined manifestations that have given hints to charlatans, and unsettled weak and hysterical natures. Do you know the short stories of Balsac? I don't mean his rivals of Rabelais, but the many little novels in which the best and noblest of his nature is revealed. "Madame de Ley's Last Reception" is one of the most pathetic instances of a mother's love, or a son's affection bringing them into communication at the moment that their spirits are departing—the psychic researchers would call it telepathy, I think. The mother is expecting her son, hoping that he has escaped the French Terror. The agony of her fears kills her. At the moment of her son's execution miles distant the wife is dead. The story is exquisitely told. When you are bored to death with the trash of the cheap magazine, or the penny sensationalism of the day, read Balsac for a change. If you can't read French get a translation. Mr. Scott has published, I believe, some of Balsac's short stories. It is from the French that the Americans have learnt the art of short story-telling. In England the publishers won't let English authors attempt to rival either; for they literally will not, if they can possibly help it, print volumes of short stories.

A Voice from the Grave.

This tragic story of Balsac's recalls to me an American incident of a lighter character; a ghost story that has no terror in it. An old lady, called away from home on a mission of life and death, arrived at an American station just as the train was moving out on its long journey. It was of the last importance that she should not be left. As it ran out one of the guards called from his van, "Mrs. Williams, the train shall pull up for you." Within a minute or two the train stood still, and with the assistance of the stationmaster the old lady took her seat. After a while she asked for the guard, who had been so kind to her, and mentioned him by name as an old friend she had not seen for years. "Why, madame," said the chief brakeman, "he's been dead this six months." "Then, who stopped the train?" I heard his voice?" said the old lady. The signal to stop the train had certainly been given. The guard had not given it, nor anyone else that could be found, and the living guard had certainly not spoken to Mrs. Williams, nor did he know her.

Humbugs and Hypocrites.

Superficial, I think, has done more to lift literature than painting. I may be utterly wrong in this belief, but it is good for the soul to be truthful in your confessions, and to many there is a kind of egotistical bias in being wrong. Anyhow superstition, a love of the mysterious and the supernatural, the untroubled mind's contemplation of Nature, the music of the wind, the solemnity of the woods, the fascinations of the night, have given us the fairy tale, the dramatic ghost, and a host of spiritual suggestion and associate, some true, but mostly invented, and all put into simple, beautiful, and often noble language. At the same time superstition has given us an army of humbugs—second-sighters, psychic maniacs, disciples of Isis, and other impostors trading upon the everlasting human desire to penetrate a world beyond our own which is the promise of all religions. Nor have the churches been spared a cloud of parasites and hypocrites who have practised behind their ample cloaks. But while literature has woven into her beautiful legends and fables the golden threads of the romance of superstition her masters have fortunately been able to do much in the way of exposing impish tricks that are the Will-o'-wishes of the mysterious and

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Questions requiring to be answered the same week receive preference.

Valuations, whether of books, books or other property, are never given outside the "Household." "Madame," "Sporting," or otherwise. The cases given below may serve as a guide when a non-de-pièce is applicable, or private correspondence is given. The cases given below will be given through the post, even though stamps be enclosed. All rejected cases unaccompanied by a stamp will be returned to the sender. Cases of short articles should be kept by their authors. We do not understand to whom the right belongs to have the articles returned to us for reparation, or to whom the right belongs to have the articles returned to us for reparation.

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WOMAN:
THE SPHINX.By FERGUS HUME.
AUTHOR OF "THE MYSTERY OF A MANSION",
"A TRAITOR IN LONDON", &c.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE STORY OF A LOST SOUL.

"Agnes and Lais one and the same person. Impossible!"

It was Anthony who spoke, and he was talking to Arden in the sitting-room of the Pippin Inn. After Agnes had fallen down in a fit, the Orchard entertainment broke up in great confusion. None of the villagers knew who De la Tour was, or why the mere sight of him had produced so terrible an effect on their Vicar's daughter.

The name "Lais" which he had called

was unknown to them—they did

not understand—one from Sir

Bernard downward, understood save

three men. Two of these—Anthony

and Arden—led the infuriated Count

back to the inn, and the third in the

person of Dr. Ryland, attending to

the transference of Agnes to the

Vicarage. The unhappy woman had

been struck down by paralysis.

Anthony went to the Vicarage to learn

this, and on being informed that she

would remain in the same state

throughout the night if not longer, he

returned to the inn much agitated.

Here in the sitting-room he found

Arden.

"I have had an explanation with

the Count," said Arden, "and he has

now gone to bed. We must have a

talk. I suppose you know by this

that Lais and Agnes are one and the

same person. Impossible!"

"Unfortunately it is true, Sulway."

"She has no twin sister."

"Then she did not go from here to

Whitechapel?"

"She did. How Larry arranged it

I don't know, as his sister seems to be

a good woman. However, he arranged

it somehow, and under the mask of

Sister Clara. Agnes was enabled to

pass a portion of the year in Paris as

Lais."

"The Major launched her there?"

"He did. You know he is acquainted

with all the rascals of Paris, rich and

poor. He took her over and introduced

her into a certain set. The beauty and

cleverness of Agnes did the rest, and

five years ago she burst upon Paris as

the notorious Lais—that position as

queen of the half-world she has kept

ever since."

"Oh," said Anthony, after he had

digested this intelligence. "Sir

Bernard was right after all in his sus-

picions. Bibles and red hair do not

go together."

"It was guess work on Sir Bernard's

part," said Arden. "He had no

reasonable grounds for suspecting the

truth, but he dare say on occasions the

devil of Lais peeped out of the saint of

Agnes. A kind of female Dr. Jekyll

and Mr. Hyde, eh?"

"Yes," replied Anthony, thinking of

the time when Harry Lee first played

"Der Kaiser Reitet" in the Manor

House parlour. "Well, Arden, how

did you find out the truth?"

"In the simplest possible way. I

was over in Paris, and one night at the

Cafe Patel I met Lais. Then she was

not furnished with the explanation of

the twin sister. That was my invention."

"Yours?"

"Certainly. I recognised in Lais

the playmate of my youth. She took

me home and gave me a full explanation,

recounting all I have told you. I

found her still beautiful, but ill and

hysterical. She appeared to be

watched, so I insisted that at my ex-

pense she should go to London and see

a great doctor. She went up there,

and saw him—"

"Well, and what then?" asked

Anthony. "I think he told her the truth about herself."

What is the truth?"

Arden shook his head.

"I am a layman, I cannot tell you,"

he said, reluctantly. "If you want to

know about Dr. Ryland, The Jerome's

as you know have an hereditary curse.

In the old man it comes out in the

form of drink. I believe the mother of

Agnes had a tendency to suicide.

With Agnes it shows itself in a form—

well you saw her as Lais in Paris—

you no doubt read the novels of

Lulu Zola, so—"Nana"—eh?"

"I understand," interrupted An-

THON with a shiver. "What did she

do when the doctor told her the

truth?"

"Gave way to despair. She returned

here and tried to fortify herself with

religion. It was then that she became

the saint you know of. Sulway, I be-

lieve that wretched girl tried with all

her heart and soul to lead a pure life,

to tread her evil instincts under foot."

"She did not tell you the truth?"

"No. I found it out for myself by

accident, as you will hear. But in

spite of her religion and good works

she grew very ill—was seized with fits

of hysteria in which—so Jocosa told me

she behaved like a lunatic. She used

to walk up and down her bed-room

half the night cursing her parents.

At last she became terrified to remain

in Apple Tree Town lest she might be

treated as the unfortunate crea-

ture she really was. It was then that

she went to town—ostensibly to work

among the poor of Whitechapel—in

order to give way to her craving for

evil life."

"Did her father know?"

"No. She never told him—he a drunk-

and could not help her. If he had been

a good man, a strong man, she might

have spoken and have leaned upon his

strength. As it was, poor creature,

she had to battle alone. Think of you-

"I do. God knows I do, from the

bottom of my soul."

Yet there are some—no—not some—but many Christians who would say—

but those who know so much of

religion, so little of charity, are ig-

nominant of the laws of heredity. The

sons of the father shall be visited on

the children." They interpret that

very plain text in their own narrow

way, as meaning religious punishment,

not the terrible punishment of

separation and thwarted nature. But

this is a digression, let me continue.

Agnes went up to London and during

a week led a life there about which

she will be as well not to speak. Then

she met with Major Larry!"

"Oh," cried Anthony, with a move-

ment of disgust. "Surely she had

nothing to do with him."

"No, not in the way you fancy. The

relations between her and Larry were

firmly business ones."

"The brute! Do you mean to say

that he plunged her deeper into the

mire?"

"I mean to say that Larry is a remarkably good man of business," said Arden, dryly. "Also a scamp; but on the whole I should not call him a brute. He gained the confidence of Agnes in some way, how, I cannot tell you, perhaps it was in a burst of despair that she told him the truth. However, he learned all about her, and how her step-mother, Nature, condemned her to be an outcast amongst women. She wished to get away from London, and go to Paris. You see she fancied Sir Bernard or Aunt Jael might see her in town, and get to know her as she really was. The poor creature clung to her life of respectability here and did not wish to sink into the mire altogether. Well Larry helped her in a very clever fashion."

"How did De la Tour find out this place?"

"He discovered Ryland's hotel in London by means of a private detective. The doctor foolishly got some letters sent on here, so De la Tour followed. He arrived late at the Pippin Inn, was informed by Jumps that Dr. Ryland was at the dance and so burst into the Barn, where he saw Lais. It was most unfortunate. However, the harm is done, Agnes is dying, so the only thing we can do is to save her memory by getting De la Tour out of Apple Tree Town."

"I suppose all that Agnes did as Lais in Paris was acting."

"It was. She accentuated her wickedness in order that you might not propose to her again. She was so much in love with you that she was afraid she might yield you press your suit. Of course, marriage with her was out of the question. Had she accepted you I should have told you the truth, but I am glad to say that such an idea never entered her mind. The poor soul always looked upon herself as one cut off from humanity."

"Anthony sighed. "Arden, Arden, what a terrible story."

"Very terrible. But I dare say there are dozens such. If doctors had the making of the laws, this hereditary curse might be diminished, if not done away with altogether."

"Of course. She does not know the real Agnes, who was never in Whitechapel in her life."

"But Larry's sister must have left herself to the deception, since letters were sent on from Whitechapel to Lais."

"She did. How Larry arranged it I don't know, as his sister seems to be a good woman. However, he arranged it somehow, and under the mask of Sister Clara. Agnes was enabled to tell her the truth, and she did not wish to sink into the mire altogether. Well, Larry helped her in a very clever fashion."

"How did he manage it? What did he do?"

"He saw that the pretence of visiting Whitechapel would have to be kept up in order to make matters safe for Agnes here. Now the Major has a sister who is a worker amongst the poor. She was—and is—called Sister Clara. Agnes took the personality of this sister, without the work. Here accepted you I should have told you the truth, but I am glad to say that such an idea never entered her mind. The poor soul always looked upon herself as one cut off from humanity."

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"She did. How Larry arranged it I don't know, as his sister seems to be a good woman. However, he arranged it somehow, and under the mask of Sister Clara. Agnes was enabled to tell her the truth, and she did not wish to sink into the mire altogether. Well, Larry helped her in a very clever fashion."

"How did he manage it? What did he do?"

"He saw that the pretence of visiting Whitechapel would have to be kept up in order to make matters safe for Agnes here. Now the Major has a sister who is a worker amongst the poor. She was—and is—called Sister Clara. Agnes took the personality of this sister, without the work. Here accepted you I should have told you the truth, but I am glad to say that such an idea never entered her mind. The poor soul always looked upon herself as one cut off from humanity."

"Anthony sighed. "Arden, Arden, what a terrible story."

"Very terrible. But I dare say there are dozens such. If doctors had the making of the laws, this hereditary curse might be diminished, if not done away with altogether."

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE CONDUCTOR.

Lord Rosebery is coming back into active politics. Mark Twain has just begun his political career. Lord Rosebery is an old Parliamentary hand. Mark Twain comes to the business fresh and enthusiastic. They are both patriots, and I wish them well. Mark goes for the enemy hammer and tongue. Lord Rosebery has to trim a little and conciliate the foe; for the enemy is within the party he is asked to lead. The enemy tries to hide its diminished head; but Lord Rosebery knows it, and will punch it one hope out of date and shape.

So far as the Conductor is concerned all he asks from any Government is the maintenance of an honest freedom, integrity of the Empire, an overmastering Fleet, and the nucleus of an Army equal to our necessities and backed by a wisely encouraged force of trained volunteers.

In domestic politics there is little between the parties to wrangle about, though one would like to see a bold and courageous revision of our fiscal policy with a view to the relief of British taxpayers and a certain, but not a mere protective, toll on the foreign trader, who at present has all the advantages of our open doors, while continually closing his own against us.

Happily Lord Rosebery has no such foes in office or out of office to fight against as Mark Twain in that other land of the "brave and the free."

Tammany is the beast he goes for, and Tammany is the synonym in New York for everything that is vile in public life, and one can well believe that in its latest defeat in the election contest for Mayor, which really includes the chief civic officers of New York, the humourous philosopher's condemnation has had great weight.

There is no minding matters with Mark Twain. "We realize," he says in the "North American Review," a proof of which he read in public instead of making a speech, "We realize that Tammany's fundamental principle is monopoly—monopoly of office; monopoly of the public feed-trough; monopoly of the blackmail derivable from protected gambling halls, protected prostitution houses, protected professional seducers of country girls for the New York prostitution market; and all that; monopoly all round. And the worst of it is this is horribly true and in evidence."

This vast political organisation has for years had the control of municipal New York; but at last the Empire city is awakening to the abomination in its midst. It is a worthy fight, and in Mark Twain's civic honesty and police morality have a high-minded, brave, and patriotic champion. With success at the polls a vigorous and earnest administration is needed to hold the fort when it is attacked at the next contest four years hence.

Compared with that of the new land in New York, Lord Rosebery has a mild task before him. He has only to bring his forces into complete patriotic line, upholders and defenders of the integrity of the Empire and the dignity and power of the Mother of Parliaments. That is all. He may attack the War Office as much as he pleases, he may bring in bills for housing the poor, he may go for the extension of education, municipal reform and all the other social and domestic questions he can bring into a Liberal platform; but if he will get his party on their legs, free from the Irish conspiracy and the still more dangerous treachery of the pre-Boer crew, he may count upon a hearty welcome back to the arena of party politics at Westminster.

For weal or woe—for weal I think—Mr. Brodrick has fulfilled his pledge to take the control of the Army from the hands of a managing board and give it over to the Commander-in-Chief. For the first time, I believe, in our history, anyhow for all practical purposes, the head of the Army is to be made responsible for the fighting efficiency of the King's forces.

This will tend to directness and uniformity of control, and is regarded by the most experienced of Army reformers as the one thing needed to bring the Service into efficient working order. The Commander-in-Chief will, of course, take advantage of the counsel of his leading subordinates, while he will have such outside civil and military advice as he may seek. The strong man will be held unto himself, and so much the better for the nation; but we must always be sure that we have the strong man at the head of affairs. A few years of wise and impartial promotions by the Commander-in-Chief will bring the strong, efficient, capable officer to the front, and give us in the future plenty of choice for the chief command.

PIPER PAN.

Shortly after Christmas the annual conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians will be held in London. A serious attempt will be made to introduce new orchestral music at some of the evening entertainments, and out of nearly 80 compositions offered for performance, the judges, Messrs. Halford, Rangdeger, and Rensley, have selected seven. Mr. Joseph Holbrooke, a young musician whose works have already been heard at the Crystal Palace and Queen's Hall, contributes an orchestral "Ode to Victory"; a short piece for orchestra will be contributed by Mr. Wight, the accomplished pianoforte professor at Dulwich College; and, to prove conclusively that the contest was not confined to native composers, a violin work has been accepted from the pen of Herr Paul Stoeving, born and educated at Leipzig, and now a violin teacher at the Guildhall School of Music.

The other four works to be performed are a "Fairy Overture" by Mr. Horner, of Nottingham, a prelude to an opera called "Constantine" by Mr. McAlpin, some "Symphony Variations" from Mr. Keyes, and an orchestral suite entitled "The Children," from Mr. Rutland Boughton, of Aylesbury. The last named young musician was a student at the Royal College of Music, and, it is said, owes his training there to the generosity of Lady Battersea, one of our greatest patronesses of music and art.

For the benefit of Westminster Hospital Sir Frederick Bridge has arranged some music of the 14th century as accompaniment to a recita-

tion of the "Death Scene of Henry IV," to be delivered in the Jerusalem Chamber of Westminster Abbey on Wednesday week by Mrs. Bewick, a daughter of Dr. Dawson Turner, who was for many years physician of the hospital. The choral music will be sung by the Abbey choristers on Wednesday week, and Canon Duckworth will preside.

After a good many years of puzzling (and often amusement) audiences at the Popular Concerts will be glad to learn that the analytical programme books are to be completely revised and brought up to date by that learned musician, Mr. Joseph Bennett. The old analyses were written 40 odd years ago when the allusions to Schumann, Brahms, and other musicians were appropriate enough, but during recent years it has been rather startling to read such remarks, and many persons were unaware that the same analyses had done duty over since they were first written.

I hear that Dr. William Cummings has in the press, and will shortly issue, a volume dealing with the words and history of "God Save the King." The frequent recurrence in print of the absurd fiction that the tune was derived from France will, it is hoped, be prevented by the advent of the forthcoming book. That the work will be full of interest goes without saying, considering that it emanates from the pen of that distinguished principal of the Guildhall School of Music, whose erudite musical knowledge is of world-wide fame.

The programmes of Mr. Robert Newman's Albert Hall concerts, to be given this month, are almost entirely devoted to excerpts from Wagner, two notable exceptions being Beethoven's Symphony in A at the first, and his Symphony in C Minor at the last concert. All the most popular selections from the Bayreuth master's works, from "Rienzi" to "Parsifal," will be performed.

Mdm. Cossina Wagner has settled the full programme of next year's Bayreuth Festival. The festival will be opened on July 22 with the "Flying Dutchman," of which five performances will be given. There will be seven representations of "Parsifal," and two cycles of "Der Ring des Nibelungen." Mr. Schulte Curtis is, as usual, London agent for the festival, and, I understand, that arrangements are being made to prevent the scandalous hotel over-charges that were prevalent at Bayreuth this summer.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

The Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia has sent a present of animals to our King consisting of a zebra, two lion cubs, and a caracal, which have been deposited by his Majesty in the Zoo. When it was first known that a zebra was on its way home from Abyssinia it was hoped that it was another of the rare Grey's zebra and that it would form a mate to the female of this species (the survivor of the pair sent by the Emperor to the late Queen) which is now in the Zoo. On its arrival it was found not to be a Grey's zebra, but a variety of the Waltonians made at the present time in the best known and commonest of all the zebras.

Buckland's zebra is distributed over the whole of South Africa, and in some of the northern parts it is still to be met with in a wild state in considerable numbers, but owing to the influence of civilization these numbers, like those of all the other large animals, are rapidly diminishing. It is generally supposed that zebras are untameable animals, but this is not the case, and in many of the South African colonies they are used as a beast of burden, and they have been found to submit fairly well to their training. It may be recollected by some of my readers that the Hon. Walter Rothschild a few years ago used to drive a team of zebras in London. Buckland's zebra is subject to great variation in colouration and form of their stripes, and the animal recently arrived at the Zoo probably belongs to Grant's variety, of which no specimen has been received at that institution before.

The Epsom Angling Society, now a strong and influential body, announced a special evening at their commodious headquarters, the Spread Eagle Hotel, on Tuesday, Nov. 19, when "Old Izaak" gives a lantern lecture, entitled "From Liverpool-st. to Lowestoft, with notes by the way." Mr. F. W. Cole, their popular president, presides, supported by many leading members of the society and their friends.

"Can the sea be fished out," is a question ably dealt with by Mr. R. B. Marston in the current number of "The 19th Century," and the conclusion arrived at, particularly after a study of the discoveries of Dr. Hjort, the famous Norwegian biologist, ought to satisfy all but unreasoning alarmists, whose voices angliers and others too often hear. That there is need for every protection to our nearer sea fishing quarters all will admit, but fish are enormously prolific, and it is not there alone that the fish live or are to be found. "It seems probable (says Mr. Marston) that in every second, every minute, and every day, more fish is produced in the sea than all humanity combined could devour in the same time." Sea anglers may breathe again.

Thanks to the Abingdon and District Angling Association some 250 rainbow trout, each 10in. to 12in. long, were turned into the lock pool at Abingdon a few days since, and the mayor very properly gave them a ceremonial send-off. About a dozen have since been caught by the roach anglers, and carefully returned. The society deserves every credit for its costly enterprise, which it may be hoped will prove in every way successful. Mr. Walter Harding (hon. sec.) and the committee and others who aided in carrying out the arrangements, rightly marked the occasion by a supper and social evening at the Nag's Head.

A capital display of roach and dace was to be seen last week at the Orléans Piscatorial weighing in, the result of their punt match at Richmond. The members of the South London clubs were afterwards entertained with a splendid concert, when the prizes won in their recent competition at Weymouth were gracefully presented by Mr. W. J. Wade, who presided. Mr. W. S. Coates and the Brothers Cartwright materially contributed to the evening's enjoyment.

The fog fiend prevented Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president) attending the Central Association meeting on Monday last, over which Mr. W. H. Elsener efficiently presided. The Tunbridge Wells Angling Society, numbering nearly one hundred members, was accepted for enrolment and other societies will doubtless follow. The Central's water at Pulborough was stated to be fishing well, Mr. Will Stone, of the Blackfriars, lately having one roach from there weighing 2lb. 8oz., and other anglers excellent roach and bream. A feeling vote of confidence with the family of the late Mr. W. R. Lawes was unanimously passed, and a letter of sympathy ordered to be sent to the United Brothers, of which he was an old and a leading member. Reports in reference to the Thames Preservation and Anglers Benevolent Societies were handed in, and the customary votes closed the proceedings.

The four lion cubs mentioned above are delightful little creatures and quite tame. Two of them have been

WILL WORKMAN.

Shakespeare said, "What's in a name?" but if he had lived till now, I fancy he would have come to the conclusion that there are very many things in this country that are nothing but names. Take for instance, Liberalism, Progressism, Free Trade, Free Education, and a lot more of them. Take away the name, and there is nothing left. Until this personal payment of rates started, there were any amount of people labouring under the delusion that they did not have to pay for the education of their children; but now their eyes are opened, and they find that they have not only been paying for their own, if they have any, but for other people's if they have none of their own.

And in answer to several inquiries, it is the easiest thing in the world to tell by your rate-paper just how much you pay every week for schooling. The School Board rate is 1s. 2d. in the pound per year, so if, for instance, it states at the top of your demand note that your "rateable value" is £11, you will pay eleven times 1s. 2d. per year, or exactly 3d. per week for schooling, whether you have a child to send or not.

And don't forget that it is the so-called "Progressive" party that has raised the rate to 1s. 2d. in the pound. The Elementary Education Act was passed 30 years ago under a solemn pledge that the School Board rate should never be more than 2d. in the pound, and it would never have been higher if they had kept to what they were originally elected to carry out—namely, reading, writing, arithmetic, and drawing for boys, and reading, writing, arithmetic, and needlework for girls.

But it was when they introduced grammar, history, geography, elementary science, object lessons, and domestic economy into the lower standards, and algebra, Euclid, physiology, book-keeping, botany, chemistry, French, German, hygiene, mechanics, mensuration, shorthand, physics, cookery and laundry, singing, recitations, and manual training in wool-work into the higher standards, that the rate began to go up, and it has been rising ever since, and some of these Progressive members of the School Board seem to be aware at night thinking how they can increase it.

One of them, last week, while advocating the teaching of Gaelic (Irish), said, "A great personage of the past had said, 'I address my King in English, I address the lady of my heart in French, and I address my God in Gaelic,'" and it was on the strength of "Tommy rot" like this, for they made no attempt at argument, that he and his friends wanted to introduce the Irish language as one of the subjects to be taught in the Board Schools at the expense of the ratepayers.

I see a Radical lecturer has been telling the people in Wales that the Government has gone broke, and is using the money invested in the Post Office Savings Banks to pay for the war, and a lot of them, believing this, have drawn out their money for fear they should lose it, and in some places it has caused quite a panic. The boat competition takes place a week later.

Twenty-two clubs were well represented at the recent Central Association visit to the Bermonsey Brothers at the Woolpack, Bermonsey, S.E., and thanks to the efforts of Mr. G. H. Shepherd and Mr. C. Piggott, an admirable programme was presented. Mr. W. Musgrave (Amicable Union) made an excellent chairman, and Mr. Bea Brown (a host in himself) presided very ably at the piano. No better entertainment could be wished for.

Now, all the Post Office Savings Banks and Trustee Banks place their money with the National Debt Commissioners, so that it is impossible for them to lose one penny, and the price of Government Consols does not affect them, as the National Debt Commissioners are bound to pay them back every penny they receive. If Consols fall the loss falls on the nation, and not on the banks, so investors have nothing to fear.

THE ACTOR.

It is pleasant to read of the unequalled success of Mr. Charles Hawtrey in New York. His style is so essentially English, and, moreover, so essentially Londonish, that it would not have been surprising had New Yorkers taken some little time to appreciate him. As it is, Mr. Hawtrey no sooner went and was seen than he conquered. One's only regret need be that he was not seen in a play more representative of our present-day West. "A Message from Mars" is an old-fashioned piece, saturated in the humour and sentiment of the school of Dickens, and without any dramatic interest whatever.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Hawtrey will appear in America in some of the comedies with which his name is in this country, so closely identified. "One Summer's Day" and "Lord and Julie Aly," for instance. It was in the former that he first exhibited his command of the pathetic, and in the latter that he showed it to be possible to make the state of inebriation funny without being vulgar.

"The Man from Blankney's" is all very well in its way, but it does not give Mr. Hawtrey half the opportunities that could be desired. Meantime, I would bequeath Mr. Hawtrey not to desert us for long.

Will "The Belle of New York" be able to resume at the Century the run of popularity and prosperity which it enjoyed at the Shaftesbury? I have never known a revival very greatly successful in London—perhaps because paving pieces are too often kept going till all interest in them has ceased. It is difficult to repeat a triumph. Were Miss Eliza May to reappear in the "Belle," I should have more hopes of it. As it is, it is quite possible that Miss Madge Lessing will "catch on" if she gets as far away as possible from Miss May's performance, creating the character anew.

It is announced that at Christmas Mr. Arthur Williams will complete forty years of service as an actor. Thirty of those years have been spent in London, and they have been fruitfully pleasurable for the public. Mr. Williams is one of the most trusty reliable individuals in question. He can always be relied upon. He can make something, even much, on occasion, out of the poorest material. Look at his "Lurcher in 'Dorothy,'" for instance. As it came from the author's hand it was one of the poorest of parts, but Mr. Williams gradually developed it into one of the most amusing of comic opera studies.

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The additions to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the week ending Nov. 8 include a Bauer's parrakeet, a white-crowned mangabey, a Cape zorilla, a Derbian zonure, an African sheep, a zebra, four young lions, a caracal, a black rat, a Hochev monkey, a Simpson monkey, three Olgiby's rat-kangaroos, five smooth-clawed frogs, a goshawk, an Indian antelope, a ruddy ichneumon, two bulbuls, and a white-throated capuchin.

The four lion cubs mentioned above are delightful little creatures and quite tame. Two of them have been

the Coronet we shall see Miss Winnie Hare, Miss Hetty Dene, Mr. Fred. James Blakeley (of humorous father and son), Mr. Pictor Roxburgh, and Mr. Johnnie Schofield, a really droll comedian. At the Kensington Theatre will be Mr. J. J. Dallas and Miss Minnie Jeffs.

On the other hand a serge, homespun, or plain fabrics are considerably improved by silk strapping and stitching.

The Ivy dress, a smart little costume for early winter wear, is shown

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DYING.

DEBILITY, HEART WEAKNESS,
AND INSOMNIA

COMPLETELY CURED BY BILE
BEANS.

THE MARVELS MADE IN WHICH CHAS. FORD'S
BILLY BEANS FOR RHEUMATISM CURED A BETTER
MAN IN LIVERPOOL. Ten years ago rheumatic
Fever left Mrs. Elizabeth Hodson, of 13, Boundary-
street, Halliwell, Bolton, with heart-weakness
and general debility; and nothing was able to cure
her until she took a course of Chas. Ford's Bile
Beans for Rheumatism. In fact, more than once she
was believed to be dead at her death's door.

To a "Solemn Journalist" who investigated
the case, Mrs. Hodson said: "I have
worked as a washer in Bolton since I was
sixteen. Ten years ago while on a visit to Chas.
Ford's—my native place—I had an awful attack
of rheumatism, and for a long time I was so weak
that I could not lift a teaspoon to my mouth. I
had to be fed, and the doctor wrapped wadding
around my nose. The fever left me with aches
of heart, heart-weakness, my legs and arms
were very much swollen, and I could not put my
feet to the ground. Late, after that I was very ill. John
Ford, the holder of the fortune, I met
there, and his daughter Grace is in the
service of the dead victim the likeness of
the absent, and it is with the working of
a detective in weaving the web of proof
that much of the subsequent doings are
concerned, albeit the plotters are kept
bustily engaged, first with the daughter
and her lover, and then with a wail who
identifies the wretch of a woman. Grace
and the boy are abducted, and their prison
house set on fire, a most stirring scene
being the walking of a burning beam by
the girl with the young wretch in her
arms. The story takes us to the gipsy
encampment, and Brighton, and the
staging is excellent.

The drama is well acted, with Messrs.
Julian Cress and T. W. Rawson as the
male villains, and Miss Ruth Mackay as
"that wretch of a woman"; Miss Muriel
Godfrey Turner and Mr. Albert Ward are
convincing as the stout-hearted lovers.

The part of Dick, the wail, is taken by
Miss Marie Jones, and Mr. C. Leverton
and Miss M. Waller furnish some genuine
"comic relief."

"OLD CHINA" AT THE EMPIRE.
"Old China," the new fantastic ballet
diversions in two tableaux at the
Empire, is one more triumph for all con-
cerned, for Mr. Wilhem, who has de-
signed the dainty and charming costumes
representing the china beloved of the
connoisseur; for Mme. Katti Lanner,
whose dances are always so delightfully
arranged; for M. Wenzel, whose music
catches exactly the spirit of the whole
thing; for Mr. Barker, the scenic artist; and
lastly for Mr. G. Edwards, under
whose direction the production takes place.

The stage picture is full of life and colour
and movement and artistic charm from the
beginning to the end of the ballet, which by
the way means on the side of length.

The series of special weekly shows at
the Royal Aquarium will be continued
this week by a fine show of racing pigeons
under the auspices of the London and
North Federation. The best of the breed
for long distances will be on view, and
the public will be able to judge the silent
messengers which have rendered signal
service in connection with both the land
and sea forces. The entertainments will

be arranged ready for you before the
show begins at 8p.m.

"Now I have entirely got rid of my old complaints
and aches, and the things I did in my life. I can eat
anything now, walk, go up and down stairs without
the slightest difficulty, and am wearing from
morning till night, as I did before I had rheumatic
fever."

Chas. Ford's Bile Beans for Rheumatism are an
marvelous remedy for heart-weakness, debility, and
the ill effects of rheumatic and other fevers. They
are also invaluable for palpitation, anæmia, sleep-
lessness, nervousness, colds, heart-ail, and all liver
and kidney disorders. All chemists stock them, or
they may be obtained free from the Chas. Ford
Manufacturing Co., 118, London Wall, E.C., by
sending price 1s. 6d. or 2s. 9d. (2s. 9d. per
bottle contains three times 1s. 1d.). Bile Beans are sold
only in sealed boxes, never loose.

DRAMA AND MUSIC.

"BEYOND HUMAN POWER."

The morbid meanderings of a hospital ward, mingled with the rabid ravings of a raving maniac, epitomise in a phrase the "serious drama" by the Norwegian playwright, Bjornson, produced in an Anglicised version at the Dean-st. playhouse "for three special matinées" on Thursday afternoon. Fifty is this curious piece of work entitled "Beyond Human Power" for it exceeds that limit to conceive of the author's motive for writing his play, that is man's policy in producing his, and the actress' purpose in playing his morbid heroine. The attraction of Miss Patrick Campbell's personality has often been intensified in her impersonations by her costumes, which sometimes strange, but as worn by her, always graceful; but never before has this most original of actresses been seen in any part wearing a night-gown, propped up by pillows on a trundle-bed.

In this position, as Mrs. Clara Sang, a pastor's wife, she bewails to a lady friend that despite the peaceful environment of the village manse she, a martyr to insomnia, has slept never a wink for eight days; yet even then, while the moon is made, as the thunder suddenly roars above her head, the sufferer sinks despite its crash into a profound slumber. This repose of the lady's nerves is attributed to faith healing—a miracle conceded in answer to the pastor husband's prayers, put up in the adjoining chapel. This direct interpolation of Providence, however, is, for no reason assigned, turned to mockery in the second and concluding act, where, after a fierce wrangle upon the merits of Christianity, having nothing to do with the action, carried on by seven of the prayerful pastor's ministerial brethren and a Bishop, the somnolent wife appears, redressed, only to die in her night-gown. Thereupon her husband, exclaiming naturally enough, "This is not what I expected," lies her down and expires beside his wife. Why or what they die is not explained; but as just then the curtain finally falls, obviously no time is left to account for their decease.

"Beyond Human Power" is, in its
brainy effect analogous to the prevailing
atmosphere, the sole glint of light in
the way to relief to the gloom being found
in the ludicrous ejaculations of one of the
pastors through the Christian wrangle,
"Oh, I am so hungry!"

Mrs. Campbell played with a sincerity
of suffering, which did not her audience, the
strange part of his wife, and was sup-
ported with sententious earnestness by Mr.
Porterhouse as the pastor husband. Mr.
G. D. Maurice, Mrs. Theodore Wright,
and Miss Lucy Milner made the most of
secondary characters.

"UNCLES AND AUNTS."

If playgoers were called upon to name
which actor upon the London stage pos-
sesses the greatest and most enduring gift
of inciting laughter, their selection would
almost to a certainty lie between Mr. W.
S. Penley and Mr. Dan Leno. Of these
droll comedians the first-named is, for his
part, justifying his judgment anew on his
own stage in a revival of *Messrs. Lestocq* and
Everard's comedy, "Uncles and
Aunts," in which he is once again seen
in his critical part of Zedekiah Aspen.

Some interesting announcements:—
Middlesex anniversary, 21st inst.; Chas.
Hector's complimentary benefit at Col-
lins's on Dec. 5; benefit of the managers
in Australia and America.

Mr. T. B. Davis's touring companies
will be very much in evidence in the
suburb next week. His "Silver Slipper"
Company, which includes Messrs. Chas.
Stevens, Wm. Macintosh, Madeline
Pattie Brown, Lulu Vail, and Ethel Syd-
ney, will appear at the Grand, Islington,
while the "Floradora" Company will
perform at the Shakespeare, Clapham, Mr.
F. Eastman playing the part of Tweed-
puddle.

A dramatic version of Judge Parry's
comical story, "Kateswampus," prepared
by himself and Mr. Louis Calvert, is to be
given at Christmas through a series of
matinees at the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

The Oxford announces for Monday, Nov.
18, the re-appearance of Miss Marie Lloyd,
who arrived in England last week after a
very successful tour in Australia. This
annual favourite will be certain of a
cordial reception.

Mr. Landeck's adaptation of Victor
Hugo's "Notre Dame," entitled "The
Shadow Dance," will be produced by Mr.
Chas. Cartwright at the Princess's next
Tuesday. The piece has been played
successfully in the suburbs.

Miss Kate Roke is now playing the part
of Lady Summershire in "The Lease of
the Dandies," taken for the two opening
nights by Mrs. Tree, whose valued services
are transferred to "The Likeless of
the Night" at the St. James's.

Rehearsals have commenced at the
Vandeville Theatre of "Little Bluebell in
Fairland," the new Christmas piece by
Seymour Hicks, with music by Walter
Slaughter, which Messrs. Gatti propose
presenting twice a day about the middle of
December.

Mr. George Alexander has lately revived
on tour the amusing comedy, first seen at
the St. James's, entitled "The Importance
of Being Earnest," which, owing to its
country success, may possibly be re-
introduced, on his return, to London
playgoers.

In reference to a note on the Queen's
Hall in "Cigarette Papers," several cor-
respondents (including Mr. F. Ortheron,
Secretary of the Oriental Association),
inform us that "there are more foreigners
than Englishmen in Mr. Newman's band."
We are sorry for it.

"Frocks and Frills" is the too frivolous
title for anything but farce given by Mr.
Grundy to his new play adapted from the
French original, for production, at an early
date, at the Haymarket, with Miss Win-
field Emery and Mr. Cyril Maude in
prominent characters.

Visitors, especially ladies, with their
little ones, will surely be attracted to the
Crystal Palace this Christmas by the display
of good Queen Victoria's very own
doll's house, with which, when a child,
she played at Kensington Palace. The
elaborate structure, of considerable size,
is a model of Buckingham Palace with the
miniature furniture intact, including two
carpets worked by the great lady's own
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To-morrow, Miss Frances Harrold's
Company will have a return visit to the
Greenwich Palace, playing in "England's
Glory," a sketch in three scenes dealing
with South African affairs. The cast in-
cludes Miss Harrold, Miss Gertrude Tate,
Mr. W. J. Mackay, and Mr. George
Weatherby. Assistance will be rendered
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THE HOROS CASE.
FURTHER SENSATIONAL
EVIDENCE.

After a lapse of three weeks, during which time Mr. Curtis Bennett has taken holiday, the Horos case was resumed at Marylebone this week, when Horos, Madame Horos, and Dr. Rose Adams arrived. Madame said that "SHE WAS AN AUTHOR." and wrote books, and thought that the conservatory would be a nice light room to write in." No furniture arrived. But there were a lot of boxes, two mahogany pillars, and two big oil paintings, "with which they made the room very nice." She gave witness a tur quoise ring a security, and the next day the rent came. In that house Madame and a Mr. Horos slept in one large double-bed in the back parlour. There was a kind of dining-room for them; in the first-floor slept Mr. Bosanquet; and the back room had two single beds, occupied by Dr. Rose Adams and Mrs. Bosanquet.

VERA CROISDALE ARRIVED.

From this house Madame and Dr. Rose Adams kept continually coming and going. The men left at the end of Aug., but Mrs. Bosanquet stayed on until just recently. Vera Croisdale came to Durand Gardens in July, and slept with Madame in the big bed. Do you remember another young woman coming to the house—Olive Rowson?" "Yes; but I didn't know then. If I had, they would both then been thrown out."

MADAME'S LECTURES.

Mrs. Annie Lewis, wife of Dr. Lewis, of Gower-st., was the next witness. She is the Gower-st. landlady. She told how Theodore Horos came to her in July last, said his name was Adams, and engaged rooms for "himself and his mother." The next day two ladies arrived—Madame, and a lady who was introduced as Rose Evelyn. She was really Dr. Rose Adams. Madame described herself as a mental scientist, and arranged terms for lectures. After the rooms were taken Madame was away a good deal, driving about first in a carriage, and later on in a carriage and pair. Vera Croisdale soon after joined the household, and she was introduced by Madame as her adopted daughter, "her mother having died when she was six years old." Madame advertised her lectures first in "Light," and then in "Wings of Truth." Subsequently "Light" refused the advertisement.

THE CONDITIONS OF THE UNIT.

—Mrs. Lewis explained how, while the Horos and Vera Croisdale and Rose Adams had bed-rooms, Mr. Bosanquet slept on the sofa in the dining-room.—Madame: Poor Harry—it was a long time before "Theocratic Unity" was even mentioned. When it was, Madame explained that it was "very like a monastic order; and that we take the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience." Horos asked the witness if she would join the Unity. Mrs. Lewis replied, "Do you mean by poverty the giving up of all one's possessions to you?" Theo replied, "Yes." To which Mrs. Lewis answered, "That will require a good deal of consideration—(daughter) because I have always had control of my own money." She saw that Rose Adams was a perfect slave, that Mr. Bosanquet was altogether under the control of the two prisoners, and had absolutely no will of his own; and that Vera Croisdale couldn't even go in and out without asking for permission. "Why?" continued the lady. "Mr. Bosanquet actually hadn't a penny for a bus fare. He couldn't go out, either, without asking permission!"

PERCEPTE AND EXAMPLE.

On the occasion of one lecture Madame made a "dead rush" at the audience, and invited everybody to join the Unity, "without money and without price." "I don't want that address published," answered the girl. "Then I will tell the public," roared Madame. She did; it was witness's father's address at Wandsworth.—"And what are you doing now, Laura Faulkner?" "Waiting for this business to be over, so that I can earn my own living." "Why aren't you earning your living now?" "Because you have brought me to public disgrace!" retorted the girl, with much spirit. "Did I bring you to that witness-box?" Was it I who induced you to lie as you have lied?" "I don't know that I have lied." "Who's keeping you now?" "The Government!"—"Ah!" cried Madame. "The Treasury, I presume, is able to exchequer your bill!" You answered an advertisement," signed "David Astor," for a wife?" Yes; and he was that man who is standing beside you!" "You lie!" shouted Madame. Dr. Lloyd, divisional surgeon of police attached to the Tottenham Court-road Police Station, was called by the prosecution, and gave evidence concerning the girl Daisy Adams, who, three weeks ago, made statements on oath of Horos's treatment of her.

MAURICE THE JEWELLER.

—Victor Knight, assistant to C. B. Vaughan, pawnbroker, of the Strand, produced a pledge-book containing the entry of a necklace, a locket, and a pair of ear-rings as pawned them on July 26, and signed for by "Theodore Horos, Duke-st., Strand." The week was pledged for £15. On Sept. 6 a. m. he was identified in the name of "Mr. Morris," of Duke-st., Aldgate, for £10. These things were all identified by Vera Croisdale as her property. Mrs. Ellen Wiggs, landlady of a house in Durand Gardens, Clapham, said two men, whom she afterwards knew as Mr. Bosanquet and Mr. Horos, on

aged four rooms in June last, at a rent of 18s. a week—unfurnished, but "for the use of 'our beds'." A day or two later Madame Horos, Mrs. Bosanquet, and Dr. Rose Adams arrived. Madame said that

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It is only some seven months ago

since the racing army—in a body

went to Lincoln for the much anticipated opening of the flat race season with hopes and expectations. Since then the racing has quickly come along, bringing with it sensations and several remarkable occurrences, although admittedly the entire season has been a moderate one, especially as regards the class of our two and three-year-olds. We went to Lincoln to see Little Eva or Alvesco win the Handicap, and to distort a well-known adage, "when we have prudently planned, we may not succeed."

It would be "choppy" for speed, as we saw when backing him both at Ascot and Hurst, although he was at Hurst through sheer luck, and only in the last furlong, when another horse was beaten by 8 lengths, did he come in second.

It was a brilliant Cup day at Liverpool, and to remind one of a generation back a three-year-old scored. Although I revel in seeing Mr. T. Oakley "Jug" victorious, I could not help but feel that the "old" Jug was well meant cataract to back Flora, for the "new" Jug was kept for the last furlong of going for Gascoyne's success, thereby giving him a better chance, while S. Lewis was wanted on Wednesday for Simony. No one had greater luck or bought bigger bags than Mr. G. Faber—instance Gascoyne and The Raft.

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TALK OF THE PEOPLE.

LATEST ELECTRIC FLASHES.

Sunday Morning.

"God bless the Prince of Wales!" Nothing could be more appropriate than that the King should choose the first anniversary of his birthday after his ascent to the throne to revive the title which has been rendered so illustrious alike by its antiquity and by the great Princes who have borne it. The name, "Prince of Wales," conjures up of itself whole vistas of English song and story, from the time when the Black Prince took the coronet with the three feathers from the helmet of the King of Bohemia on that fateful day when the power of France was shattered by the cloth-yard shaft, to the return of the latest holder of the title from consolidating the greatest Empire the world has ever seen.

Whether it was from the Bohemian King or another that the Princes of Wales originally derived their motto, "Iob Dien," it is surely the noblest that was ever chosen by the scions of a Royal House. "I Serve" has been no empty legend for our Princes, for few men have to work harder than the Prince of Wales, except, perhaps, the King, and the motto itself is a splendid acknowledgement that the highest station involves the heaviest responsibilities and the most arduous toil. The new Prince of Wales cannot recognise this more fully than his father did when he bore the historic title; but that he feels it quite as keenly, he has already shown us.

It is a curious thing that though no one but the Sovereign's eldest son can be Prince of Wales, the title is not, and never has been, hereditary. No Heir Apparent is born Prince of Wales—he is raised to that dignity by the decree of the Sovereign, and it has often been withheld altogether. During the six hundred years which have elapsed since the title was first used there have only been 283 in which there have actually been Princes of Wales, and of these very nearly half were covered by the last two Princes of Wales, subsequently to be known as George IV. and Edward VII.

The fact that the title is not hereditary is the more curious when we remember that the origin of our hereditary aristocracy lies in the fact that the performance of certain services which carried certain titles with them gradually began to grow as a matter of course from father to son, and so created an hereditary caste. We have still an hereditary Earl Marshal, an hereditary Grand Falconer, and many more similar survivals of this state of things, and one would naturally have expected the tendency to operate even more quickly in the Royal Family than anywhere else. That it has not done so is only another of those strange anomalies of which English history is full.

The pro-Boers are trying to raise a great do over the very sensible decision of the authorities not to allow Mrs. Hobhouse to re-enter South Africa just at present. But I do not fancy anyone will be much affected by it. The accounts she gave of the concentration camp were so plainly the offspring of political hysteria that we really cannot wish her the opportunity of providing more material out of which the enemies of the country can manufacture new lies to embitter the situation. People like Mrs. Hobhouse, who do not realise the harm they do by their unguarded sensational statements, may have their use, but they really cannot be allowed to run wild while serious war is going on.

FOREIGN.

Sir James Agnew, formerly Prime Minister of Tasmania, is dead.—Reuter.

There is no truth in the report that Mr. Kruger has rented a villa at Mentone.

It is understood that Retchad Bey, Turkish Ambassador at Rome is to be appointed shortly to London.—Daiziel.

The Sultan has authorised the establishment of a Russian school for girls at Pera.—Daiziel.

Halil Kifat Pasha, Grand Vizier, died at Constantinople yesterday.—Reuter.

At the Berlin Municipal elections in the first divisions held yesterday all the candidates were Liberals.—Reuter.

The Isthmian Canal Commission will meet on Tuesday to add the finishing touches to its report.—Reuter.

The railway from Kaidalowko to the Chinese frontier, connecting the Siberian with the Manchurian railway, has been opened for traffic.—Reuter.

M. de Giers, who has been recalled from his post of Russian Consul-General at Canca, has left for Rome and St. Petersburg.—Reuter.

A body of miners paraded at Lens yesterday, shouting "Vive la gloire."

A number of men in the mines at Dourge also struck work.—Reuter.

Fifteen of the 20 convicts who escaped from prison at Leavenworth (Kansas) on Thursday, have now been recaptured.—Reuter.

Col. Waller has captured, after very sharp fighting, the strong insurment position of Sojotan, in the Philippines.—Reuter.

The French Minister of the Colonies denies the accuracy of the sensational reports as to the state of affairs in the French Congo.—Daiziel.

The German battle-ship marked in the naval programme with the letter "Z," was launched at Stettin yesterday. The "Z" was christened Mecklenburg-Holstein.

A fresh earthquake shock was felt at Brescia yesterday, and on the shore of the Lake of Garda. There was a great panic among the population, but no casualties are reported.—Reuter.

Senior Blanco, the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs, has resigned, not being in agreement with the foreign policy pursued by President Castro.—Reuter.

A case which was heard before the Divorce Court on Friday once again shows how inextricable is the middle class in which the diversity of the marriage laws among the English-speaking people has led us. At present a man may easily be married in England and single in America or vice versa, while very often the most experienced lawyer cannot tell him whether he is either or both. It seems to me that all that is wanted is to agree that the citizens of each country shall be bound either by the marriage laws of the state, of which he is a citizen, or, if you prefer it, by those of the state in which he lives. It does not matter a pin which principle is adopted, provided only that the courts of all the various States will agree to adopt one or the other, and to recognise each other's decisions.

WIDE AWAKE.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY. ENTHUSIASTIC CELEBRATIONS YESTERDAY.

Yesterday was the King's 60th birthday—his first after succeeding to the Crown of these realms. His Majesty celebrated the anniversary at his Norfolk home, surrounded, as usual, by her Majesty and the members of his family. Owing to the melancholy event early in the year the proceedings were of a very quiet character. There was a private house party, and certain labourers were entertained to dinner, which was grace by the presence of their Majesties.

REJOICINGS IN LONDON.

The King's birthday was observed in London with much rejoicing. The bells of a number of City and West End churches were rung at intervals and flags were hoisted on many public and private buildings. The Royal Standard flew on the Victoria Tower of the Houses of Parliament as well as Westminster Abbey and the Royal churches of St. Margaret's, Westminster, and St. Martin's, Charing Cross.

The Government offices were topped with either Royal Standard or Union Jacks, and flags were also flying at the offices in Victoria-st. on the Agents-General for Natal, Canada, Victoria, New Zealand, and New South Wales. Royal salutes were fired at St. James' Park at noon.

TOOK AWAY THE LUGGAGE.

Mrs. Annie Maria Holloway was lodging in the house, and she missed a ring and a blouse while prisoner, and the man stayed there. Accused and the man afterwards took apartments at another house, where a theft was committed.—Det. Holder spoke to arresting prisoner as she left Ipswich gaol, where she had undergone one month's imprisonment. At first they had plenty of money and went about from place to place, staying at hotels. The man, he was told, ruined prisoner and in the end abandoned and left her helpless.

In reply to the magistrate prisoner said she was the daughter of a Baptist minister who died two and a-half years ago. His pastorate was at Cottenham, near Cambridge, and afterwards at Birmingham. She left home because she could not get on with her step-mother. Det. Holder added that the man made a confession to his mother, and as a result she got the property restored to its owners.—The Magistrate: If I deal leniently with you will you go into a home where you will be able to retrieve your character?—Prisoner: Yes, your worship, and I will try and do better.—Mr. Curtis Bennett: Very well, then you will be remanded. I am strongly of opinion that you have been much more sinned against than yourself.

AT WIMBLEDON.

The King's birthday was celebrated on Tuesday yesterday. Flags were displayed on all the castles and country houses still in occupation in the villages of Banchory, Aboyne, and especially in Ballater and Braemar. Bunting was freely displayed on all the hotels, public buildings, and many shops and private houses. At noon the servants and retainers in the Dalmorn estate met in the Castle, and, under the presidency of Commissioner Forbes, drank the healths of the King, the Queen and other members of the Royal Family. At Mar Lodge the tenantry and retainers were similarly entertained by the Duke and Duchess of Fife.

AT SHIREHOLD AND ALDERSHOT.

The ceremony of proclaiming his Majesty as King of the British Dominions beyond the sea was performed at Chichester yesterday. The Mayor read the proclamation, Canon Webb offered prayer, and the Cathedral choir sang the national anthem. A guard of honour of the Royal Sussex Regiment was present.

An extraordinary accident occurred at Wrexham engineering works, Wellington, when "Incy Poo" had a narrow escape from death. He was putting a belt of shanting when his clothes got caught, and he was carried round five or six times. Had not the engine been stopped promptly he would have been killed.

At the second annual poultry and pigeon show the prize winners included C. Preston, of Dewsbury; W. Gill, Sladen; E. Shepherd, Droylsden; S. Woodall, Timperley; Prof. Brothers, Walkden; T. R. Kemp, Urmston; and Anthony Brothers, Heywood. In pigeon prizes were taken by Squire Buckley, of Whitworth; R. Mawdsley, Stockport; and Krompton Brothers, Norden.

M. G. Senior, who was yesterday installed Lord Mayor of Sheffield, had an interesting and romantic career. Born 60 years ago of humble parentage, he was from the age of eight regularly employed in his father's forge as nailmaker. After working for many years as a hammer man he began steel business 30 years ago for himself, and is now one of the wealthiest of Sheffield manufacturers.

AT COVENTRY.

The King's birthday was celebrated at Colchester by the firing of a Royal salute and the mayor proclaiming his Majesty by his gilded title. The town is gaily decorated with flags.

CELEBRATIONS ABROAD.

Telegrams from the Continent and the Colonies show that the King's birthday was celebrated in a quiet but loyal spirit, the event in many of the British dependencies being observed as a public holiday.

PRINCE CHUN AND THE KING. Shanghai, Nov. 9.—Prince Chun attended a reception which was held here to-day by Mr. Warren, the British Consul-General, in celebration of King Edward's birthday. The Prince is leaving to-night for the North.—Reuter.

WEST END ILLUMINATIONS.

The illuminations celebrating the birthday of King Edward VII. since his accession to the throne were of a most ornate and brilliant description, and the scenes in the West-end last night to some extent rivalled those which occurred on "Mafeking Night," with the single exception that they were far more orderly. The crowds were considerable, but there was an almost entire absence of the disorderly element. In Pall Mall fumbeaux were burning brightly, whilst devices in coloured incandescent lights appeared above most portions of the clubs. Immense crowds perambulated the thoroughfares, and shortly after nine the National Anthem was sung outside the gates of Marlborough House, this being followed with ringing cheers for the New Prince of Wales." In St. James's-st. the illuminations were even on a more elaborate scale. The words, "God Save the King and Queen" were seen at every hand, and the illuminated designs being remarkable for their brilliancy.

AT THE MUSIC HALLS.

A special effort was made at the Alhambra to appropriately celebrate the occasion. A military display, entitled "God Save the King," was presented, and was received with great applause by a house packed in every part. The show took the form of an inspection and march past, concluding with a tableau, in which the Naval Brigade and the several regiments were represented. At the Empire, before a crowded audience, the occasion was also celebrated in a right royal manner. Mme. Pasquali, the operatic singer, appeared as an "extra turn."

The orchestra struck up the first bars of the National Anthem, and the vast audience rose in mass, immediately noting the significance of the interlude. A similar scene was witnessed at the Hippodrome, where Miss Lilian Lee, the celebrated contralto, sang the National Anthem, and suggested to the evident delight of the crowded house, an encore, "God Bless the Prince of Wales."

At Bristol, H. E. Harding, 45, was sent to gaol for a month for stealing three billiard balls from the Royal Oak, Princetown.

The United Irish Society at Boston, U.S.A., yesterday reaffirmed that their method to obtain the deliverance of Ireland from the English yoke.—Central News.

NO HOSPITAL VISITING.

The principal officials of University College and other hospitals, also the guardians of the establishments of Holborn Union and kindred institutions issued notices yesterday that no visitors to patients or inmates will be allowed to day or in future until the abatement of the present small-pox epidemic.

The King and the Prince of Wales will leave London for Frogmore to-morrow evening.

MINISTER'S DAUGHTER IN TROUBLE.

RUINED AND DESERTED.

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REJOICINGS IN LONDON.

A visitor named Hoppe secured at Marlow a fine pike weighing 25lb. The Lord Bishop of Chichester opened the crypt of the church of St. Thomas, Hove.

Archbishop Eyre, head of the Catholic community at Glasgow, was yesterday reported to be sinking.

Mr. Emmott, M.P., yesterday opened a new Radical Club at Shand, Roehampton. It cost about £2,000.

A golf caddie, named Frank Thorpe, was at Nottingham yesterday, sentenced to one month for obtaining 2s. by a trick from a man named Pyne.

At Colchester, Elizabeth Girkin, 40, of Childs-place, who was paralysed, fell on the fire and was unable to get up. She died from frightful burns.

The 75 per cent. summer rebate taken off Bristol miners' wages about five months ago was restored by the colliery owners.

Dover Municipality decided to apply for powers to purchase the Electric Light Works for the borough. The price agreed is £120,000.

Wm. Eckling Wayte, a well-known North Sea pilot, of Yarmouth, was found dead in his bunk on the pilot-boat "Will o' the Wisp," while lying at the Royal Yacht Squadron.

The time-honoured ceremony of weighing the Mayor, peculiar to High Wycombe, was well observed yesterday, when Mr. Walter Birch was re-elected chief magistrate.

The late Mr. J. C. Madge, of Southampton, has bequeathed £2,000 to the National Lifeboat Institution, £1,000 to the Shipwrecked Mariners' Friendly Society, and £500 to the Church Missionary Society.

The demolition of the wooden huts which have served for the accommodation of troops at Colchester since the time of the Crimean War commenced. The new barracks are lighted with electric light, and are said to be the best constructed in the kingdom.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
THE COMING COLONY.

LAND GIVEN AWAY.

ORDERS for which are obtainable on application to the Agent-General.

Spring Gold, Abundant and Certain Rainfall.

Grand Climate, Good Harvests, and an

EXCELLENT MARKET FOR ALL

PRODUCE.

EASY FACILITIES OF TRANSIT.

A LARGE AND INCREASING GOLD FIELD,

gold to the value of over \$6,000,000 being Pro-

duced annually, confirming a promising prediction.

COAL, LEAD, IRON, AND COPPER MINES.

MAGNIFICENT TIMBER

RESOURCES.

PEARL SHELL, AND OTHER FISHERIES.

FULL AND DETAILED INFORMATION, WITH

PUBLICATIONS AND PLANS, MAY BE OBTAINED gratis from the Agent-General for Western Australia, 15, Victoria-street, Westminster, London, and by Letter from the Government Land Surveyor, Perth, Western Australia, or persons in any part of the world. (Please mention this Paper.)

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ANNOUNCEMENT.

AUTUMN & WINTER SELECTION
NOW READY.

SEND POST FREE ANYWHERE, THE EASY
Self-measuring Form, which will
give a perfect fit.

ALL GARMENTS MADE TO MEASURE

FIT AND STYLE GUARANTEED.

BUSINESS SUITS, 21s.

BETTER QUALITIES,

17s. 6d., 22s. 6d., and 27s. 6d.

OVERCOATS, 20s.

BETTER QUALITIES,

25s., 30s., and 35s.

TROUSERS,

MADE TO MEASURE,

6s., 7s. 6d., and 9s. 6d.

NEW SEASON'S PATTERNS SENT FREE.

We pay carriage on all goods in the United Kingdom.

BAKER BROTHERS,

WHOLESALE MEASURE TAILORS,

10, A. & E. ELDON-STREET, LIVERPOOL-
STREET, LONDON, E.C.

100—Gentlemen can be measured between the
hours of 9 and 7. Saturdays 2 o'clock.

FREE PATTERNS
FOR A POSTCARD.

CALL ON WRITE FOR THE FIRST FREE
SELECTED FREE PATTERNS EVER ISSUED
BY THIS FIRM.

CUSTOMERS ARE INVITED TO CALL AT OUR
CLOTHING WAREHOUSE AND INSPECT.

WE SEND WITH THE FREE PATTERNS A
SPECIAL EASY SELF-MEASURING CHART, SO
THAT A CHILD OF SEVEN CAN SIT UP WITHOUT
THE POSSIBILITY OF A MISTAKE.

I will report details later.

THE BOER LOSSES.

From Lord Kitchener to the War
Office:—

Pretoria, Nov. 6.—In continuance of

my telegram of 11 a.m. Nov. 4. As

Benson's column was reaching its

camping ground in very heavy rain,

Boers, who had previously been held

off, were reinforced by arrival of

Louis Botha with some 600 men.

These pressed rapidly forward to within

close range of position held by

Benson's rearguard. A very heavy fire

was at once opened by Boers, and men

and horses, with Benson, who had

remained with rearguard, were shot

down in a few minutes. At the same

time positions east and west of the

camp were attacked. These attacks

were driven off, and Boers were un-

able to make any further serious at-

tempt on the camp.

Guns with rearguard were for

some time between the two forces,

neither being able to approach. When

ambulances were sent out for the

wounded, among whom was Benson,

Boers removed the guns. They got

nothing else.

We had no loss in transport, and not

many horses.

Enemy's losses (information ob-

tained from reliable sources) were 44

killed, among whom was Gen. Opperman,

and 100 wounded, among whom

was Gen. Chris Botha.

HOW BENSON DIED.

BRavery OF THE BUFFS AND

SCOTTISH.

A telegram from the special corre-

spondent of "The Standard" at

Standerton fills in several gaps in the

narratives hitherto published of Col.

Benson's fight with Botha. It ex-

plains, for instance, why our rea-

guard guns came to be left on ground

which neither party could occupy, and

also shows Botha's plan of attack.

The message says:—The force under

Commandant-General Botha which

attacked Col. Benson's column last

week numbered about 1,000 men.

They had been ordered to concentrate

in the neighbourhood of Ermelo, and

comprised the Johannesburg, Pretoria,

Carolina, Ermelo, Heidelberg, Stand-

erton, and Bethel commandos, togeth-

er with another commando, the

name of which has not yet become

known.

BOTHA'S OBJECT.

Gen. Botha's object was to fall,

with the whole weight of his com-

mand, upon one or other of the

British columns that are operating

entirely within the Eastern trian-

gle. Col. Benson was moving to-

wards the Delagoa Bay Railway,

and Commandant Opperman came across

the line just as the column was half-

ing at Grootfontein, south of Brugap-

ruit, and 60 miles north-west of Standerton.

The British were in the act of forming

camp, in the midst of a heavy

thunderstorm, and with the rain lash-

ing their faces, when Opperman and

the other commandos arrived.

—This affair holds good for one week. Don't

lose your chance. Write now. All new. These

offered. Valued by readers as 40s. The

40s offered by our testimonial are genuine.

GENTLEMAN'S D.B. BEEFER SUIT, only

17s. 6d. 22s. 6d. 27s. 6d. 32s. 6d.

GENTLEMAN'S BLUE BEAVER QUILLOOTS, with

SILVER COLLAR, only 15s. 6d. carriage

free.

GENTLEMAN'S WATERPROOF

OVERCOATS,

WITH VERTICAL POCKETS,

ONLY 13s. 6d.

17s. 6d. 22s. 6d. 27s. 6d. 32s. 6d.

MISS COFF.

Stanley-road, Harton, Dec. 23rd, 1901.

I received 13s. 6d. Suit, and it is really

the best I have ever had. The suit is

combined with style and appearance,

and has a shorter skirt from rear.

Yours truly,

D. F. DARVEL.

Post-cards or letters for free patterns should be sent to our AUTUMN SPECIAL OFFER, and to our

WARD'S VI-CLOTHING

COMPANY,

DEPT. 20.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.

ESTABLISHED 1882.

THE WAR.

BENSON'S FIGHT.

A DESPERATE AFFAIR.

HOW THE GUNS WERE LOST.

BOER INHUMANITY.

From Lord Kitchener to the War
Office:—

Pretoria, Nov. 3.—The wounded of

the late Col. Benson's column were

brought in this afternoon to Springs,

and are being well cared for. The

column itself is due at Brugapruit to-

morrow. I have not yet received fur-

ther details of the fight. The column

which moved out from Standerton on

Oct. 31 under Gen. Gilbert Hamilton,

arrived at camp 7.30 on Nov. 1, after

slight opposition.

FURTHER DETAILS.

From Lord Kitchener to the War
Office:—

Pretoria, Nov. 4.—Following details

of the engagement at Brakplaag just

received.

Column under Col. Benson left the

camp just to the north of Bethel at

dawn on Oct. 30, marching on Brug-

apruit.

A certain number of Boers were

about, and were reported to be hold-

ing Brakplaag, where they intended to

camp. The weather was wet and

stormy. The enemy were easily kept

off during the march, and Brakplaag

was occupied at one p.m.

The rearguard, with two guns and a

screen of the 2nd Scottish Horse, was

stationed on a ridge, evidently within

range of the camp.

An attack of Boers on one flank of

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

In London 2,737 births and 1,518 deaths were registered last week. The births were one, and the deaths 59, below the average.

The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes further rose last week to 17.4.

The 1,516 deaths included six from small-pox, 24 from measles, 12 from scarlet fever, 36 from diphtheria, and 28 from diarrhoea and dysentery.

Different forms of violence caused 75 deaths, concerning all but three of which inquests were held.

Of these 75 deaths, six were cases of suicide, and three of homicide, while the remaining 66 were attributed to accident for negligence.

In Greater London 4,048 births and 2,002 deaths were registered, corresponding to annual rates of 32.0 and 15.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which is estimated at 11,463,026 persons in the middle of this year.

According to the official quarterly returns issued this week the population of the United Kingdom in the middle of 1901 is estimated at 41,544,145 persons; England and Wales, 32,617,001; Scotland, 4,633,744; and Ireland, 4,443,370.

M. Paderewski was 41 this week.

A man should weigh 25lb. for every foot of his height.

The present growth of London's population is 2,500 a month.

On an average 1,700,000 of the world's population are constantly abroad.

Germany owns 742,000 acres in Central America, with 20 million coffee trees.

One hundred and fifty-four out of every 10,000 convicts are constantly in hospital.

A floating bottle dropped in the Gulf Stream will cross the Atlantic in about 180 days.

There are in the United Kingdom over 122,732 places licensed to sell intoxicating liquor.

The Suez Canal cost £185,000 a mile. The North Sea Canal came next in price, costing £145,000 a mile.

The Monte Carlo gambling casino made £300,000 last year, of which £50,000 was clear profit.

A penny is only 23 grains heavier than a sovereign, the former weighing 146, and the latter 123 grains.

It has been observed that, as a rule, single women live longer than single men.

Fat pork baked in honey was a favourite confection among the women in the days of Horace.

A negro in Kentucky lately died leaving property worth £12,500. He was born a slave.

Japan is the country where cremation is practised on the largest scale. The custom dates back about 1,200 years.

Towns of England and Wales are in debt £263 millions sterling, while those of Scotland add another 37 millions to this amount.

The fire brigade of Berlin was recently called upon to disperse four different swarms of bees which had taken up their quarters in the streets.

Each inhabitant of London spends on an average £1, a year for gas, as against an average of 10s. in other British towns.

The sparrow rarely raises more than three broods a year in England, but in Maryland, America, has been known to produce six.

School children in Mexico who have shown proficiency in their studies are permitted to smoke cigarettes by their teachers while pursuing their lessons.

The Bedouin Arabs are small eaters. Six or seven dates soaked in melted butter serve a man a whole day, with a very small quantity of coarse flour or a little ball of rice.

Lady Walter Heseltine will present awards at a combined prize distribution in connection with 23 continuation schools at the Newton-on-Bath, Walworth, on Nov. 14.

The War Office invites regular non-commissioned officers at home to volunteer for service with the British Chinese regiment of infantry at Wei-hai-wei.

Some years ago there was produced in the Court of Probate a plank on which were scratched the testamentary dispositions of a shipwrecked naval officer. The board with its rough carving was held to be a will duly executed.

The only Prime Minister from Mr. Pitt's time to our own who entered the House at over 30 was Mr. Disraeli, the most eminent in the list beginning their House of Commons career with or very little after, their 21st year.

The sugar cane of China is said by botanists to be an entirely distinct species from that of India, and this fact is supposed to indicate that the development of sugar cane was carried on independently by two different nations at the same time.

A remarkable fruit tree is to be seen in an orchard in Kansas, U.S.A. The body of the tree, with a few of its branches, is apricot, while branches of peach and plum trees have been grafted thereon. The three different kinds of fruit have been gathered from it.

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA!

Hearty cheering hailed the car which illustrated the wealth, the industries, and patriotic spirit of the new Commonwealth of Australia. Wheat with typical Antipodean harvesters, a kangaroo, and a dashing trooper in the familiar garb made up a pretty picture, which was cheered from every window and at every street corner.

Following the Australian car, the pipers of the Scots Guards swung—where do the pipers get that swing?—into Cheapside, to the accompaniment of considerable cheering, and to them succeeded the most picturesque group in the procession—a number of spic-and-span camels, led by Arabs, the early trade connectives of London being by this means brought before the people of the present generation. The car representing the methods of weighing introduced by the Grocer Guild was an attractive item, and following the carriage came a great procession of uninteresting bazaar-bearers and lavishly dressed porters, all of which gave colour to a highly-coloured procession.

THE SHERIFFS AND THE LORD MAYOR.

Sheriff Horace B. Marshall and Sheriff J. C. Bell, in their state carriages drawn by four horses each, returned the salutations of many of their friends in the streets. State trumpeters of the Royal Horse Guards, Aldermen who have passed the chair, and Aldermen who have

LORD MAYOR'S SHOW.

YESTERDAY'S PROCESSION.

ENTHUSIASTIC CROWDS.

Yesterday, in weather which, considering the experience of the past few days, might be described as fine, the new Lord Mayor, Sir Joseph Dimasdale, M.P., made his progress through the streets of the City in connection with his visit to the Law Courts. Early

in the morning great crowds began to assemble on the line of route over which the procession was to pass. Business in the City was practically suspended,

and the fact that the "Ninth" fell this year on a Saturday was taken advantage of by many merchants to close their warehouses, and so that the alterations at the Stock Exchange might be pushed forward, the members held a holiday. The route of the procession was lavishly decorated, the houses in Cornhill, Sir Joseph's ward, being hidden among flowers, bunting, and evergreens. The Royal Exchange, too, and the Mansion House made the display worth of the City and the Lord Mayor, while in Coleman-st., Finsbury-pavement, and Moorgate-st., numerous flags fluttered, the eager faces at the windows adding greatly to the interest of the scene.

IN PLATE-STEEL.

On the route from Ludgate Circus to the Law Courts the imposing pro-

cession passed the chair, the City Mayor, gorgeously costumed, the late Lord Mayor, and gold and velvet-clad liverymen followed in dazzling succession. Round upon round of enthusiastic cheering declared the advance of the pivot upon which the whole of the day's proceedings moved, Lord Mayor Sir Joseph Dimasdale.

THE FATHER'S STATE COACH.

nearly 150 years of age, looked like a piece from an old picture of a well-acted modern pantomime, seated on its gold and red "dicky" being the "circumferential" driver, who cracked his whip as if all the show were controlled by him. The porters were the plodders along the route—perhaps more than anywhere in Cornhill—that the popular Lord Mayor kept raising his hat and smiling during the progress of the procession. With the Lord Mayor were his chaplain, his swordbearer, and mace-bearer; the great sword, which was enclosed in a pearl-covered scabbard, being that which was presented to the Corporation by Queen Elizabeth. To make a comparison of yesterday's Lord Mayor's Show with those of previous years is somewhat difficult but the general opinion of those who make it their business to attend the annual function declared that that of yesterday suffered nothing when put in contrast with recent ones. Certain it was that the City of London did not give any signs of being in a state of "rot," not to speak of bankruptcy, which our pro-Boer Continental enemies so persistently affirm in the case.

IN PLATE-STEEL.

On the route from Ludgate Circus to the Law Courts the imposing pro-

cession passed, the fact that the "Ninth" fell this year on a Saturday was taken advantage of by many merchants to close their warehouses, and so that the alterations at the Stock Exchange might be pushed forward, the members held a holiday. The route of the procession was lavishly decorated, the houses in Cornhill, Sir Joseph's ward, being hidden among flowers, bunting, and evergreens. The Royal Exchange, too, and the Mansion House made the display worth of the City and the Lord Mayor, while in Coleman-st., Finsbury-pavement, and Moorgate-st., numerous flags fluttered, the eager faces at the windows adding greatly to the interest of the scene.

THE PROCESSION STARTS.

When about 12 o'clock the temporary gate at the Cheapside end of King-st. was opened and Major Woodhouse, Assistant Commissioner of Police, who led the procession, passed into Cheapside, tens of thousands of expectant people were packed into the adjoining streets. Following Major Woodhouse came a detachment of mounted police, all of whom wore the Jubilee medal, the S. African war ribbon also showing on the breast of one or two of the men. Close behind the policemen were smart Hussars of the 2nd Provisional Regiment. In the procession was no lack of military bands, and along with those of the Royal Artillery (mounted), 1st V.B. Royal Fusiliers, the Queen's Westminsters, the 6th V.B. Royal Fusiliers, came in carriages members of the Fan-makers Company, with the silver emblem of the craft, the Grovers' Co., Patten-makers' Co., and many of the beholders seemed to be puzzled as to what exactly a patten is—Stationers' Co., and Innholders' Co. Steam fire engines which followed were better understood of

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA.

St. Marylebone.—Mr. E. Boulnois, M.P.

St. Pancras.—Mr. E. Barnes.

Southwark—Alderman E. Redman.

Stepney.—Mr. E. Mann.

Stoke Newington.—Adl. W. Eve.

Wandsworth.—Mr. Lancaster.

Woolwich.—Mr. J. J. Mennet.

PROVINCIAL MAYORS.

The ceremony of electing the Lord

Mayors and Mayors for the ensuing

year also took place in the various

municipal cities and towns of Eng-

land and Wales. The following are

some of the chief—

Unionists.—Chatham, Mr. H. J. T.

Browne; Horsham, Ald. J. Colman; Has-

tings, Ald. F. A. Lathom; Kingston-on-Thames, Mr. W. F. St. L.

rence Fenny; Liverpool, Lord Mayor

Ald. C. Petrie; Leeds, Lord Mayor

Mr. A. E. Butler; Nottingham, Mr.

Eboracum, Ald. E. Eckersley; Preston, Earl of Derby; Saltor, Ald.

Rudman; Sheffield, Lord Mayor Mr.

G. Senior; Warwick, the Earl of

Worcester; Birmingham, Lord Mayor

Mr. John Henry Lloyd; St. Helens, Col. V. W. Pilkington; Heywood, Mr.

T. Popple; Bradford, Mr. W. E. Lup-

ton; Andover, Mr. A. D. Sherwood; Bur-

ton; Merton, Mr. H. Blackwood; Bur-

Hornby, M.P.; Plymouth, Ald.

Radical.—Bristol, Lord Mayor Mr.

C. E. L. Gardner; Brighton, Ald.

John E. Stagford; Cardiff, Mr. F. J.

Heaven; Huddersfield, Ald. Ernest

Woodhead; Hanley, Mr. H. Coates;

Leicester, Ald. Edward Wood; Leo-

naster, Mr. R. J. Dent; Manchester,

Lord Mayor Mr. Hay; Norwich, Mr.

Russell J. Colman; Smeethwick, Mr.

S. Smith; York, Lord Mayor Ald.

Lancelot Foster; Chester, Mr. J. Gar-

rett; Scarborough, Mr. J. Sinfield;

Devonport, Mr. H. Graves.

Politics not stated.—Berwick-on-

Tweed, Mr. Steven; Truro, Mr. J.

Jame.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

PENDING ELECTIONS.

Draxcar.—Mr. W. Runciman (R.)

and Mr. H. Quelch (Soc.) have been

selected. Unionist has not yet been

chosen. Labour party have invited

Mr. E. Hartley, of Bradford.

GALWAN, CIR.—Mr. H. Plunkett (R.)

will stand against Arthur Lynch (N.), who fought with the Boers

against Great Britain.

NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

YORKSHIRE (Richmond).—Mr. J.

Hutton (U.) will retire at the next

election. The Earl of Ronaldsay (U.)

will probably be selected.

L.C.C.

Mr. F. Smith (R.) will resign his

seat on the L.C.C. to take up a position

in connection with the Salvation Army.

DEATH OF THE OXFORD STROKE.

The death of Mr. H. H. Culme-Seymour, the secretary of the O.U.B.C., and stroke of the victorious eight of

this year, on Wednesday, has come as

a shock to his very numerous racing

friends. Like that of another famous "bipe," Ernest R. Balfour, his death

is due to a chill contracted in the

course of a day's shooting in Scotland.

Mr. Culme-Seymour stroked the

second eight at Eton, and began his

Oxford career last year, when he

stroked the New College torpids to the

head of the river, stroked the Universi-

ty boat in the Clunker Fours, and

then rowed No. 2 in the Oxford boat

against Cambridge. At Henley last

year he stroked the New College eight

that won the Ladies Plate; and he was

largely responsible for Oxford's sensa-

FIGHT FOR LIFE.

MURDER AND SUICIDE AT A LONDON BANK.

CASHIER'S PLUCKY CONDUCT.

There have been few more sensational crimes than that which was enacted at the Kennington branch of the London and South-Western Bank on Monday afternoon, when one of the cashiers was shot dead by a would-be robber, who himself perished a few moments later through the accidental discharge of his own revolver.

The bank had closed, when a knock was heard at the door, and an inquiry was made of the junior clerk who answered it as to whether the manager was in. Fortunately, perhaps, for Mr. Salmon, the manager, he was away at the time, as the man identified as Joseph Porter, a stoker out of employment,

FOLLOWED THE CLERK INSIDE. At this time Mr. E. G. Couche, the first cashier, was standing behind the counter at his till, his desk being the first inside the doorway, and comparatively close to the window. Mr. Crawley, the second cashier, was also standing behind the counter at that of Mr. Couche and the entrance to the manager's room. The thief muttered something, and sprang on to the counter like a cat, to use Mr. Couche's own expression. Mr. Crawley was at this time standing at his desk, apparently thunderstruck, and Mr. Couche, shouted,

"LOOK OUT, CRAWLEY!"

Almost immediately the latter was fired at by the thief, and unfortunately with fatal consequences. The murderer, putting the muzzle of his revolver through the spaces of the grille, had shot Mr. Crawley right in the centre of the forehead. Death was immediate, the unfortunate second cashier falling forward on his face.

The murderer hurriedly passed into the manager's room. It was then that Mr. Couche stepped boldly forward to tackle the intruder, and by his gallantry saved the situation.

MR. COUCHE'S CRIME. A man of athletic build, a well-known footballer, and a Devonian of the pluckiest type, Mr. Couche grappled with his assailant, and eventually, after a prolonged combat succeeded in getting the upper hand of him, and in throwing him across the table.

THE CASE OF MRS. CRAWLEY AND THE HERO'S REWARD. At their board meeting the directors of the London and South-Western Bank on Thursday formally considered the case of Mrs. Crawley, and resolved, in addition to defraying the funeral expenses, to present the widow with a donation of 100 guineas, and to confer on her a pension of £72 per annum. It was also decided to make a gift of a substantial sum, the amount of which was not stated, to Mr. Couche, who gallantly attacked the murderer and frustrated his desperate enterprise. There will likewise be a presentation to Mr. Couche at the manager's dinner, with an intimation that his name is noted for early promotion.

INQUEST AND VERDICT. Lambeth Coroner's Court was packed when Dr. Taylor held the inquests on the cashier and his assistant, Mr. Porter, railway clerk, living in South Lambeth-nd., identified the body of his son, who was 24, and had been a fireman on the L. and S.W. Railway. He had lately come up from Boulton to the mouth. He was a tea-totaller. About Oct. 21, his son told him he was going to South Africa, and he had enough money to pay his passage. Witterton had since discovered, though, that he only had £5. 10d. on that day. The coroner read an excellent testimonial from the L. and S.W.R. Co. Mr. Budd, junior clerk at the bank, said that at 4.5 p.m. on Monday Porter called at the bank. "Porter sprang on to the counter and over the grille, attempted to strike Mr. Couche, who was sitting at his desk. Porter had something in his left hand, and Mr. Couche raised his arm to ward off the blow."

MR. COUCHE'S GRAPHIC STORY. Mr. E. G. Couche was the next witness. Mr. Couche is a tall, athletic-looking man. His right cheek was plastered up, and in reply to the coroner in a quiet voice he said he was fairly well. Mr. Couche, who lives in Boulton, said he was the first cashier at the Kennington Bank. "After the bank had closed I heard someone shake the door very violently," he said. "I did not take much notice, but soon afterwards I looked up and saw Porter pointing a revolver at me through the grille. He said, 'I want your till, or I fire.' I turned away, and ran towards the manager's room, calling to

Crawley, who sat next to me, 'Look out, Crawley!' I wanted to get away from that revolver, continued Mr. Couche, with a smile, but when I was half way to the manager's room I heard a report, and saw Crawley fall down on the floor." After Crawley fell Porter ran up to witness and pointed the revolver at him. Witness seized his hand and turned it round just as he fired, but was hit in the cheek. "We were then in the manager's room, and I closed with him and forced him across the table in the manager's room.

KNOCKS HIS REVOLVER UP.

"I suppose he fired it at me—I am not certain—and I knocked it up and he killed himself." "I never saw Porter before," Det.-insp. McCarthy described how he found the bodies. Porter had a life-preserver fastened to his left wrist. He bought this at Newington Butts for 2s. 2d. He had two metal watches, and pawn tickets, showing that on Saturday he pawned a gold chain.

A SWEETHEART'S LETTER.

There was also a letter addressed to Porter, dated Sunday, 5 p.m., Nov. 3, from 34, Trinity-st., Dorchester:—"My Dearest Sweetheart—I do feel so miserable about you not coming

Nov. 3. 2nd Scottish Horse: Pte Alexander Munro, wounded, Greyhounds, Nov. 2. 1st Dragoon Guards: Pte D. Kent, dysentery, Nov. 3. 2nd Royal Horse Guards: Pte G. M. Mountford, rifleman, Nov. 2. 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers: Pte J. Faragher, dangerous, not stated, Tukuhka, Oct. 4.

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